UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

D-32

TO : Mr. Mohr

DATE: 8-14-65

FROM : C. D. DeLoach

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 8/19/10 BY Sp4 arm/jb

SUBJECT: SPEAKER JOHN MC CORMACK
BRIEFING RE MARTIN LUTHER KING
SATURDAY, 8-14-65
AT 2 P.M.

At his request, and with the Director's approval, I briefed Speaker John McCormack regarding the background and activities of Martin Luther King today in the Speaker's rooms.

The briefing lasted approximately 45 minutes. It covered King's as well as his connections with members of the Communist Party. The identity of the members of the Communist Party who have had control over and association with King were brought out. The latest incident in which King has advised the press that he will write a letter to General Ho Chih Minh of the North Vietnamese, in an attempt to establish himself as a "peacemaker" was related to Speaker McCormack. The communists efforts back of this incident, and those individuals perpetrating the incident were mentioned.

Speaker McCormack was quite calm about the entire briefing. He stated he had heard much in the way of rumor previously; however, he wanted to know if the information he had received was accurate. He stated he now recognized the gravity of the situation and that something obviously must be done about it. He inquired as to whether the President knew these facts. I replied in the affirmative.

The Speaker stated that he thought that "Edgar Hoover did not call King a notorious liar for nothing." He stated he now recognized why the Director branded King as he did. He added that he was in complete sympathy with the Director taking this action.

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The Speaker spoke lengthily concerning the desperate need to educate Negroes today with the fact that they cannot defy the law and get away with it.

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1 - Mr. Belmont
1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. Jones

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